

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Examiner: Brendan N. McCommas
YOICHI SATO	)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2625
Appln. No.: 10/661,553	)	
	:	Confirmation No.: 9044
Filed: September 15, 2003	)	
	:	
For: IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS	)	December 12, 2008

**Mail Stop RCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is being filed herewith. Prior to further examination on the merits, and in response to the final Office Action dated September 12, 2008, please amend the above-identified application as follows.